

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES—  
H.R. 2419

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the authority of the order of December 14, 2007, the chair appoints the following conferees on the part of the Senate to H.R. 2419: Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. GRASSLEY conferees on the part of the Senate.

PRESERVATION OF EXISTING  
JUDGESHIPS

Mr. SANDERS. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 556, S. 550.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 550) to preserve existing judgeships on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SANDERS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The bill (S. 550) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 550

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION OF SUPERIOR COURT.

Section 903 of title 11 of the District of Columbia Code is amended by striking "fifty-eight" and inserting "61".

PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN W. MCCARTER

Mr. SANDERS. I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 25 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 25) providing for the appointment of John W. McCarter as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise to support the appointment of John W. McCarter, Jr., to serve on the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents is vested with authorities typically given to boards of trustees of not-for-profit and educational institutions throughout the United States. The Board considers a variety of issues related to the Smithsonian Institution, including budgets, planning documents, proposed pro-

grams and construction, appointments to Smithsonian advisory boards, and legislative initiatives. Given the variety and importance of the Board's responsibilities in managing the tone of America's most cherished cultural institutions, members of the Board of Regents serve a critical leadership role for the Smithsonian Institution.

That is why I am pleased to support John McCarter's appointment. He currently serves as president and chief executive officer of the Field Museum, one of the greatest cultural attractions in Chicago. The Field Museum attracts over 1 million visitors each year. The museum was originally founded to house the biological and anthropological collections assembled for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The original collection has been expanded to include some 20 million specimens, due in part to its continued worldwide expeditions and associated research.

Under John McCarter's leadership, the Field Museum has undertaken a series of projects to rebuild and restore the museum. Research activities have expanded along with the physical structure—the Field Museum is an international leader in evolutionary biology and paleontology in addition to archaeology and ethnography.

Before he joined the Field Museum in 1996, John McCarter was with Booz Allen & Hamilton as a senior vice president and was president of the DeKalb Corporation. He has also worked in government, serving as budget director for the State of Illinois in 1969 and as a White House Fellow during the LBJ administration.

John McCarter brought this diverse work experience to the not-for-profit museum he now leads. During his tenure at the Field Museum, John has created several new permanent and traveling exhibits, including the "Evolving Plant" exhibit in March 2006, the exhibit of Sue, the T. rex, in 2000, and the "Tutankhamen and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" exhibit in 2006. These exhibits drew huge crowds to the Field Museum, expanding the reach of the museum's rich cultural experiences to new and diverse audiences. John's leadership has led to a new emphasis on developing museum exhibits that tell stories. This approach attracts more visitors and better educates those who are drawn in. The museum has also formalized its educational role in the community, establishing partnerships with science teachers in the community and organizing activities for inner-city schools.

It is my honor to support the appointment of John McCarter. His extensive experience in the government, private, and nonprofit sectors make him a great addition to the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents.

Mr. SANDERS. I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be read three times, passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 25) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 25

*Resolved by the Senate and House, of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, in accordance with section 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 43), the vacancy on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in the class other than Members of Congress, occurring because of the expiration of the term of Walter E. Massey of Georgia, is filled by the appointment of John W. McCarter of Illinois, for a term of 6 years, effective on the date of the enactment of this resolution.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW YORK GIANTS ON THEIR VICTORY IN SUPER BOWL XLII

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 441, submitted earlier today by Senator SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 441) congratulating the New York Giants on their victory in Super Bowl XLII.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have asked for time because I rise to speak about something that happened in Arizona yesterday.

I rise to congratulate the New York Giants on their much deserved Super Bowl victory last night, which very few thought would happen. But we Giants always knew we could prevail; we just couldn't pick the circumstances.

Mr. President, I will also be offering on behalf of myself, my colleague from New York, Senator CLINTON, and my two colleagues from our neighboring State of New Jersey, in which the Giants stadium is located, Mr. LAUTENBERG and Mr. MENENDEZ, this resolution.

The Big Blue, for the few of you who missed the game—I heard it had one of the biggest TV ratings we have had in a long time—the Big Blue defeated the heavily favored New England Patriots in what will go down as not only one of the greatest Super Bowl upsets in history but one of the most exciting and closely contested games in all of sports history.

Today, I am wearing the red, white, and blue. I usually enjoy wearing the red, white, and blue because I love America, but today I am particularly enjoying wearing those colors because I love the Giants.

Under enormous pressure, facing one of the most talented, methodical teams ever assembled, the Giants came from behind, battling back twice, to take that title.

Since the beginning of the season, the chattering class said the Patriots were an unstoppable force that would march untouched to a comfortable,